of the Vernacular Higher Examination, it was part of a general scheme, which the Government thought necessary to introduce, in view to ensure that deserving pupils should obtain qualifying certificates, based on a sound basis. The scheme of School Leaving Certificates replaces not only the Vernacular Higher Examination, but also the Matriculation Examination. I trust that these remarks of mine will not be taken by the Members, who have notified their intention to speak about the Education system, as indicating that I deprecate the full and free expression by them of their opinions in regard to this important matter. On the other hand, I look forward to what they would say with considerable interest. I am sanguine that they would make their representations in that spirit of moderation, which contributes so materially to the satisfactory settlement of difficult questions, and above all, I hope that they would distinguish between the principles of the Code and individual cases of real or supposed hardship in its operation.

Religious and Charitable Institutions.

19. At the previous Sessions of the Assembly, several Members have referred to the administration of the Religious and Charitable Institutions of the State. The desire was expressed that the changes contemplated in regard to the 'Devaswoms' should not act prejudicially to those Institutions. Several Members also prayed that the expenditure on 'Charities' should be curtailed and kept within proper control. I would now invite the attention of the Members to Chapter VIII of the Report, from which they will see that final orders have not yet been passed by His Highness' Government on the proposals made by Mr. Ramachandra Rao in regard to the 'Devaswoms'. The Members may rest assured that the Government would take steps not only to put the 'Devaswoms' on an efficient footing, but also to safeguard their future. The changes introduced in the administration of the 'Charities' have already resulted in reducing the expenditure on them substantially, the total expenditure having fallen from Rs. 6,44,928 to Rs. 4,95,375, and a still further reduction of the expenditure is anticipated during 1086.

Conclusion.

20. The year 1085 was the 25th year of His Highness the Maha Raja's Reign. Immediately after the close of the year, on the 3rd Chingam 1086, people of all classes and creeds celebrated with great rejoicing, all over the State, the happy completion of 25 years of the beneficent sway of a wise and singularly unselfish Ruler, whose one and only aim has throughout been to promote the well-being of his subjects.

The Dewan having resumed his seat, the Malayalam translation of the Address was read to the Assembly by the Government Head Translator. Copies of the Address, in English and Malayalam, were then distributed among the Members and others present. The Assembly adjourned at 1-20 P. M., to meet again the next day at 11 A. M.

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